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COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
First session
14-25 June 1993

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

2. Adoption of a multi-year thematic programme of work for the Commission.

3. Issues relating to the future work of the Commission.

4. Exchange of information regarding the implementation of Agenda 21 at the national level:

   (a) Guidelines to the Secretariat for organizing information provided by Governments, including information in the form of periodic communications or national reports and national Agenda 21 action plans regarding the activities they undertake to implement Agenda 21, the problems they face, such as those related to financial resources and technology transfer, and other environment and development issues they find relevant;

   (b) Ways in which, upon request, the United Nations system and bilateral donors are assisting countries, particularly developing countries, in the preparation of periodic communications or national reports and national Agenda 21 action plans.

5. Progress in the incorporation of recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in the activities of international organizations, and measures undertaken by the Administrative Committee on Coordination to ensure that sustainable development principles are incorporated into programmes and processes within the United Nations system.

6. Progress achieved in facilitating and promoting the transfer of environmentally sound technology, cooperation and capacity-building.

7. Initial financial commitments, financial flows and arrangements to give effect to the decisions of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development from all available funding sources and mechanisms, including those referred to in paragraph 33.14 of Agenda 21.

8. Provisional agenda for the second session of the Commission.

9. Other matters.

10. Consideration of the outcome of the discussion on the above items, as well as of urgent and major emerging issues, at the high-level meeting of the first session of the Commission.

11. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its first session.

Annotations

Item 1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

In decision 1993/217, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its organizational session (E/1993/25 and Corr.1) and approved the provisional agenda for the first session of the Commission.

Rule 7 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council (E/5975/Rev.1) provides that the Commission shall, at the beginning of each session, after the election of its officers, adopt the agenda for that session on the basis of the provisional agenda.

Item 2. Adoption of a multi-year thematic programme of work for the Commission

In resolution 47/191, the General Assembly recommended that the Commission, at its first substantive session, adopt a multi-year thematic programme of work that would provide a framework to assess progress achieved in the implementation of Agenda 21 and ensure an integrated approach to all of its environment and development components as well as linkages between sectoral and cross-sectoral issues; the programme of work could consist of clusters that would integrate in an effective manner related sectoral and cross-sectoral components of Agenda 21 in such a way as to allow the Commission to review progress in the implementation of the entire Agenda 21 by 1997; the programme of work could be adjusted, as the need arose, at future sessions of the Commission (para. 12).

In the same resolution, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit his proposals for such a programme of work during the organizational session of the Commission (para. 13).

At its organizational session in February 1993, the Commission took note of the report of the Secretary-General on the outline of a multi-year thematic programme of work for the Commission (E/CN.17/1993/2) and requested the Secretary-General to prepare a draft programme for consideration and adoption by the Commission at its first session, taking into account comments and views

expressed during the organizational session of the Commission (E/1993/25, para. 2).

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General (E/CN.17/1993/5)

Item 3. Issues relating to the future work of the Commission

At its organizational session, the Commission decided (a) that, at each session, on the basis of its agenda, it would determine the need for and the number of informal negotiating groups, as well as the need for other specific sessional arrangements for its work, on the understanding that the number of such groups would not exceed three during a particular session and that no more than two of them would meet simultaneously; (b) that, in preparing the agendas of its forthcoming sessions, it would determine which reports were to be considered from all relevant organs, organizations, programmes and institutions of the United Nations system, as well as international financial institutions, including the Global Environment Facility, and the links with those bodies, including the expert advice from the High-level Advisory Board presented by the Secretary-General; (c) that it would determine ways to consider reports and contributions from entities outside the United Nations system, including non-governmental organizations; and (d) to request the Chairman, with the assistance of other members of the Bureau and the Secretariat, to conduct, during the intersessional period, informal consultations with all members of the Commission and other interested delegations on the issues outlined above and to submit his proposals to the Commission for approval at the first session (E/1993/25, para. 3).

Item 4. Exchange of information regarding the implementation of Agenda 21 at the national level

(a) Guidelines to the Secretariat for organizing information provided by Governments, including information in the form of periodic communications or national reports and national Agenda 21 action plans regarding the activities they undertake to implement Agenda 21, the problems they face, such as those related to financial resources and technology transfer, and other environment and development issues they find relevant

(b) Ways in which, upon request, the United Nations system and bilateral donors are assisting countries, particularly developing countries, in the preparation of periodic communications or national reports and national Agenda 21 action plans

In resolution 47/191, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to prepare, for the first substantive session of the Commission a report on ways in which, upon request, the United Nations system and bilateral donors were assisting countries, particularly developing countries, in the preparation of national reports and national Agenda 21 action plans (para. 16 (d)).

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General (E/CN.17/1993/6)

Report of the Secretary-General (E/CN.17/1993/7)

Item 5. Progress in the incorporation of recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in the activities of international organizations, and measures undertaken by the Administrative Committee on Coordination to ensure that sustainable development principles are incorporated into programmes and processes within the United Nations system

In resolution 47/191, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to prepare, for the first substantive session of the Commission, a report on progress in the incorporation of recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in the activities of international organizations and measures undertaken by the Administrative Committee on Coordination to ensure that sustainable development principles were incorporated into programmes and processes within the United Nations system (para. 16 (c)).

Also, in resolution 47/191, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission, at its first substantive session, recommendations and proposals for improving coordination of programmes related to development data that existed within the United Nations system, taking into account the provisions of paragraph 40.13 of Agenda 21, inter alia, regarding "Development Watch" (para. 24).

In the same resolution, the General Assembly requested the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme and the Trade and Development Board to examine the relevant provisions of chapter 38 of Agenda 21 at their forthcoming sessions and to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session, through the Commission on Sustainable Development and the Economic and Social Council, reports on their specific plans to implement Agenda 21 (para. 25).

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General (E/CN.17/1993/8)

Report of the Secretary-General on "Development Watch" (E/CN.17/1993/9)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting information provided by the Trade and Development Board of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on the implementation of Agenda 21 (E/CN.17/1993/13)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting information provided by the United Nations Environment Programme on the implementation of Agenda 21 (E/CN.17/1993/14)

Item 6. Progress achieved in facilitating and promoting the transfer of environmentally sound technology, cooperation and capacity-building

In resolution 47/191, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to prepare, for the first substantive session of the Commission a report on progress achieved in facilitating and promoting the transfer of environmentally sound technology, cooperation and capacity-building (para. 16 (b)).

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General (E/CN.17/1993/10)

Item 7. Initial financial commitments, financial flows and arrangements to give effect to the decisions of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development from all available funding sources and mechanisms, including those referred to in paragraph 33.14 of Agenda 21

In resolution 47/191, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to prepare, for the first substantive session of the Commission, a report on initial financial commitments, financial flows and arrangements to give effect to the decisions of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development from all available funding resources and mechanisms (para. 16 (a)).

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General (E/CN.17/1993/11 and Add.1)

Item 8. Provisional agenda for the second session of the Commission

In accordance with rule 9 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council (E/5975/Rev.1), the Secretary-General shall submit a draft provisional agenda for the Commission's subsequent session, indicating in respect of each agenda item the documents to be submitted under that item and the legislative authority for their preparation, in order to enable the Commission to consider the documents from the point of view of their contribution to the work of the Commission and of their urgency and relevance in the light of the current session.

Item 9. Other matters

Item 10. Consideration of the outcome of the discussion on the above items, as well as of urgent and major emerging issues, at the high-level meeting of the first session of the Commission

In resolution 47/191, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to prepare, for the first substantive session of the Commission, a report on urgent and major emerging issues that might be addressed in the course of the high-level meeting (para. 16 (e)).

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General (E/CN.17/1993/12)

Item 11. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its first session

In accordance with rule 37 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council (E/5975/Rev.1), the Commission reports to the Council on the work of each session.

Annex I

ORGANIZATION OF WORK

The proposed programme of work for the first session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, set out below, has been drawn up on the basis of the decisions taken by the Commission at its organizational session and of informal consultations conducted by the Chairman with the Bureau.

Proposed programme of work

Week of 14-18 June

Monday, 14 June		Opening of the session
a.m.		
p.m.	Item 1	Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters
	Item 2	Adoption of a multi-year thematic programme of work for the Commission
	Item 3	Issues relating to the future work of the Commission
Tuesday, 15 June		
a.m.	Item 2	(Continued)
p.m.	Item 4	Exchange of information regarding the implementation of Agenda 21 at the national level:

(a) Guidelines to the Secretariat for organizing information provided by Governments, including information in the form of periodic communications or national reports and national Agenda 21 action plans regarding the activities they undertake to implement Agenda 21, the problems they face, such as those related to financial resources and technology transfer, and other environment and development issues they find relevant;

		(b) Ways in which, upon request, the United Nations system and bilateral donors are assisting countries, particularly developing countries, in the preparation of periodic communications or national reports and national Agenda 21 action plans
Wednesday, 16 June		
a.m. and p.m.	Item 7	Initial financial commitments, financial flows and arrangements to give effect to the decisions of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development from all available funding sources and mechanisms, including those referred to in paragraph 33.14 of Agenda 21
Thursday, 17 June		
a.m. and p.m.	Item 6	Progress achieved in facilitating and promoting the transfer of environmentally sound technology, cooperation and capacity-building
Friday, 18 June		
a.m. and p.m.	Item 5	Progress in the incorporation of recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in the activities of international organizations, and measures undertaken by the Administrative Committee on Coordination to ensure that sustainable development principles are incorporated into programmes and processes within the United Nations system
Week of 21-25 June		
Monday, 21 June		
a.m. and p.m.		Consideration of draft proposals on items 2, 4, 5, 6 and 7
Tuesday, 22 June		
a.m. and p.m.		Consideration of draft proposals on items 2, 4, 5, 6 and 7 (continued)

Wednesday, 23 June

a.m. and p.m.	Item 10	Consideration of the outcome of the discussion on the above items, as well as of urgent and major emerging issues, at the high-level meeting of the first session of the Commission

Thursday, 24 June

a.m. and p.m.	Item 10	(Continued)

Friday, 25 June

a.m. and p.m.	Item 8	Provisional agenda for the second session of the Commission
	Item 11	Adoption of the report of the Commission on its first session

Annex II

MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN 1993

(53 members)

	Term expires on 31 December
Algeria	1994
Angola	1993
Antigua and Barbuda	1995
Australia	1994
Austria	1994
Barbados	1993
Belarus	1993
Belgium	1995
Benin	1994
Bolivia	1995
Brazil	1994
Bulgaria	1993
Burkina Faso	1995
Canada	1993
Chile	1995
China	1995
Colombia	1994
Cuba	1994
Czech Republic	1994
Egypt	1994
France	1994
Gabon	1995
Germany	1995
Guinea	1993
Hungary	1994
Iceland	1995
India	1993
Indonesia	1995
Italy	1993
Japan	1993
Madagascar	1993
Malawi	1995
Malaysia	1993
Mexico	1993
Morocco	1993
Namibia	1995
Netherlands	1995
Nigeria	1994
Norway	1994
Pakistan	1995
Philippines	1994
Poland	1995
Republic of Korea	1995

	Term expires on 31 December
Russian Federation	1995
Singapore	1994
Sri Lanka	1994
Tunisia	1995
Turkey	1995
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1993
United States of America	1993
Uruguay	1995
Vanuatu	1994
Venezuela	1993